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**A Special Focus on Kenya's
October 2021 Presidency of
the United Nations Security
Council**



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Kenya successfully concludes her Presidency of the UN Security Council



H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta chaired a virtual United Nations Security Council high-level debate on cooperation between the United Nations, Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations with a special focus on the African Union on October 29, 2021

Kenya has successfully concluded her Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of October, 2021, in what proved to be a historic and consequential month for the country's foreign policy and diplomacy.

On October 1st, 2021, Kenya assumed the rotational Presidency of the UN Security Council, a watershed moment in the country's two-year tenure at the Security Council. This is informed by the fact that the UN Security Council is the principal organ for the maintenance and furtherance of international peace and security.

It is worth recalling that Kenya's membership of the UN Security Council is in keeping with the country's desire to shape the global security environment in order to make Kenya – and Kenyans – safer. Indeed, the conduct, outcomes and accomplishments of Kenya's Presidency of the Council in October 2021 were not only consistent with the country's strategic security goals, but were also vital in impressing on the Council, Kenyan – as well as African – ethos in addressing global security challenges.

In this respect, Kenya facilitated the adoption of two (2) Security Council Presidential Statements – or PRSTs – which will henceforth form part of the official documentations and records of the Council. These PRSTs were adopted following high level open debates of the Security Council that were presided over by the leadership of the country. On October 28th, 2021, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta presided over a High-Level Open Debate of the Council on the Cooperation between the United Nations, and Regional and Sub-regional Organizations (African Union), under the theme of *"Renewing Solidarity to Successfully Deliver Peace and Security in a Changing Conflict Environment"*.

The high-level open debate was briefed by H.E. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo of Ghana, H.E. President Kais Saied of Tunisia, H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc of Viet Nam, H.E. Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, H.E. Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store of Norway, H.E. Amina Mohammed, the UN Deputy Secretary General and by Dr. Donald Kaberuka, the AU High Representative for the Peace Fund. The Council subsequently adopted a Presidential Statement as an outcome of this high-level debate.

Likewise, on October 20th, 2021, the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Raychelle Omamo, presided over a ministerial open debate on the Great Lakes Region. This was in support of renewed commitment of the Great Lakes countries in seeking sustainable solutions to the root causes and drivers of conflict. The Council adopted a Presidential Statement as an outcome of this ministerial debate.

It is equally important to point out Kenya's role in advancing the issue of diversity as a key driver of conflict. On October 12th, 2021, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta presided over an in-person high-level open debate of the Council on Diversity, State Building and the Search for Peace. This session, was also addressed by the UN Secretary-General, H.E. António Guterres, H.E. President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, H.E. Thabo Mbeki, the former President of South Africa and by Honourable Fawzia Koofi, former Deputy – and only female – Speaker of the Afghan Parliament.

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Kenya successfully concludes her Presidency of the UN Security Council

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A key outcome of this high-level debate was that the failure to properly manage diversity was not only the root cause of a majority of civil wars and violent conflicts, but that poor management of diversity was a grave threat to international peace and security.

Kenya also presided over the opening up of the Security Council Chambers for the in-person participation of the wider UN membership in Council's deliberations, making Kenya's Presidency the first to be held in-person since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. Indeed, on October 21st, 2021, the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Raychelle Omamo, chaired an in-person Ministerial Level Open debate on Women and Peace and Security, with more than 60 delegations participating at the event. This session, which was on investing in women peacekeepers and women peacebuilders, was briefed by the UN Secretary General, H.E. Antonio Guterres, as well as by Amb. Sima Sami Bahous, the Executive Director of UN-Women.

Kenya's Presidency of the Council has similarly been instrumental in re-energizing and revitalizing discussions on the Middle East, particularly on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. In a session that he presided over, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Amb. Macharia Kamau invited the Council to break from past models that had been used to address the conflicts in the Middle East. In their stead, Amb. Kamau proffered the adoption of the diverse, well-defined, cultural-context grassroots channels in seeking innovative answers to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In concluding a momentous Presidency, Kenya – under the leadership of her Permanent Representative to the UN, Amb. Martin Kimani – led the Security Council for a field visit to the Sahel region of Africa, that saw the Council pay courtesy calls on the leadership of Mali and Niger. This visit was both historic and significant; it allowed the Council to assess and be apprised of the challenges of terrorism in the Sahel and how these impacted on the governance and stability of the region. This visit to the Sahel was also the first such visit by the Council during the Covid era.

It is worth pointing out that the conclusion of Kenya's Presidency of the Security Council was marked by a series of events, which included an interactive briefing to the United Nations members. This took place on October 29, 2021, during which the wider UN Membership paid tribute to Kenya for the exemplary stewardship of the affairs of the Security Council.



CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba at a reception hosted for all UN Member States at the conclusion of Kenya's Presidency of the Security Council in New York, USA on October 30, 2021



Permanent Representative to the UN, Amb. Martin Kimani led the Security Council for a field visit to the Sahel region of Africa, a visit that saw the Council call on the leadership of Mali and Niger - October 23 to 25, 2019

At a reception hosted for all UN Member States, the Chief Administrative Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Ababu Namwamba conveyed the gratitude of His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, the Government and the people of Kenya to Security Council members for supporting Kenya's Programme of Work for the month of October. Similarly, Hon. Namwamba thanked the UN membership for the trust and honour that they had bestowed on Kenya by electing her to the Council and underscored Kenya's continued commitment and leadership on the maintenance of international peace and security.

Indeed, the successful Presidency of the Council in the month of October 2021 has provided Kenya with a vital platform for the advancement of the country's foreign policy objectives and also contributing to a safer, secure and prosperous Africa.



H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, in his capacity as the President of the UN Security Council in the Month of October, presides over the High-Level Open Debate on October 12, 2021 in New York, USA

President Kenyatta sets Kenya's agenda for its Presidency of the UN Security Council by presiding over a high-level open debate on diversity

His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, on October 12, 2021 headlined Kenya's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council by presiding over the High-Level Open Debate at the Security Council under the theme – 'Diversity, State Building and the Search for Peace.'

Speaking at the high-level signature event, President Kenyatta highlighted that rampant mismanagement of diversity was a grave threat to international peace and security.

The President stressed that exclusion of people and societies, based on their identities, was often institutionalized in governance and economic relations at national and global level resulting to inequality. He underscored that this often leads to bitterness and frustration, which is vulnerable to exploitations leading to deteriorating trust in institutions and weakening of state legitimacy.

President Kenyatta regretted the global mismanagement of the Covid-19 pandemic saying vaccine nationalism, travel bans and red listing of countries were a clear indicator of the international communities' inability to manage diversity.

For effective management of diversity, President Kenyatta, invited the international community to accept the need to change national and global economic and governance systems and called for safety rails in domestic polity of members states, buttressed by reformed international institutions that were not only fit for purpose, but also transparent and inclusive.

The High-Level Open Debate was briefed by the UN Secretary-General, H.E. António Guterres,

H.E. President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, H.E. Thabo Mbeki, former President of South Africa and Honourable Fawzia Koofi, former Deputy – and only female – Speaker of the Afghan Parliament.

In the ensuing deliberations, Council members, as well as the briefers, noted that failure to properly manage diversity was the root cause of a majority of civil wars and violent conflicts. This was exacerbated by power imbalances in many of the conflicting societies.

The open debate concluded that peacebuilding was an ongoing process in the constant search for peace through dialogue and building consensus. In the same manner, peace building was described as not merely a technical enterprise, but rather a deeply political and human activity that had to factor all attendant emotional connections and recollections.



President Uhuru Kenyatta chaired the UN Security Council high-level open debate on peacebuilding and sustainable peace, covering diversity, state-building and search for peace in New York, USA on October 12, 2021



CS Omamo leads the Security Council in the 21st Annual Debate on Women and Peace and Security



Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo, presides over the 21st Annual Debate on Women and Peace and Security at the United Nations Security Council in New York on October 21, 2021

On October 21, 2021 Kenya opened up the Security Council Chamber for the first in-person participation by the wider United Nations Membership since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This was during the 21st Annual Debate on Women and Security presided over by Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo. The debate was one of Kenya's high-level events during its October Presidency of the United Nations Security Council.

During the event themed, "Investing in women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding" CS Omamo stated that the theme was in relation to the Resolution 1325 and the subsequent resolution which calls on the recognition and active seeking of women participation in building, negotiating and keeping the peace.

The Cabinet Secretary called on the Security Council and the United Nations Agencies to design peace processes that are inclusive of all people and particularly women at grassroots level.

"We must purpose to 'see women', make their work, experiences and accomplishment visible, invest in them and incorporate their needs into national and international policies and strategies," the CS emphasised.

CS Omamo quoted the words of the late Thomas Sankara "I hear the roar of women's silence; I sense the rumble of their storm" She underscored, "we must ensure the roar of women at the grassroots is heard, their contribution valued their aspirations seen and captured in the WPS Agenda"

Recognizing the work of women photographers who exhibited at the Photoville Exhibition themed, "Women Taking Ownership for Peace" held at the UN Headquarters, the Cabinet Secretary recommended the exhibition to all people saying the photographs capture the tangible outcomes being sought in the implementation of the 1325 WPS Agenda. The photographs featured women leaders, peacebuilders, mediators, peace signatories, parliamentarians, activist and youth advocates.

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CS Omamo leads the Security Council in the 21st Annual Debate on Women and Peace and Security



CS Amb Raychelle Omamo with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres walk through the Photoville Exhibition at the UN Headquarters in New York on October 21, 2021

Photoville Exhibition

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Following the captivating exhibition, which preceded the debate, the CS announced that Kenya in collaboration with UN and other partners launched the African Tour of the travelling exhibition, aimed at taking the stories from formidable grassroots women working in peacebuilding and peacekeeping to the continent. She appreciated Kenya Airways for facilitating the voyage of the exhibition to the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic and to Nairobi next year.

Highlighting Kenya's commitment to investment in local women, the Cabinet Secretary further stressed on the importance of investing on women across the peacebuilding and peacekeeping continuum, saying that, investment in conflict affected zones must correspond to context and threat environment.

The meeting noted that despite some progress on Resolution 1325 since its inception, there was a backdrop of increasing violence against women around the world. Member States welcomed steps taken to implement resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2242 (2015), while emphasizing the need to include more women in every stage of the peacebuilding process.

In this regard, it was noted that special measures, quotas, inclusive selection measures, independent delegations of women representatives, political commitment by Member States, investment in better data collection, gender analysis and monitoring of results across all peace efforts were among best tools to expedite positive change to increase representation.

The Open debate was addressed by H.E. António Guterres, the UN Secretary-General, who noted that women remained significantly under-represented in parliamentary politics and in peace processes, pointing out that women parliamentarians only represented a small percent of parliamentary seats worldwide. In this regard, increasing the number of women in elected posts was one way of curbing conflicts globally.

Others who briefed the debate included, Amb. Sima Sami Bahous, the Executive Director for United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), H.E. Mme Bineta Diop, the African Union Commission's Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, as well as by Ms. Celia Umenza Velasco, Legal Coordinator for the Indigenous Reservation of Tacueyó and member of the Cxhab Wala Kiwe.



Photoville Exhibition



Photoville Exhibition



Security Council on the challenge of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in peacekeeping contexts



Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the UN Security Council presides over the first signature event on illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons on October 6, 2021

Kenya's first signature event as the President of the Security Council which took place on October 6, 2021 focused on addressing the challenges of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the context of peacekeeping operations.

Addressing the Security Council, Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative to the UN, highlighted that the issue of the destabilizing accumulation, transfer and destructive impact of illicit small arms and light weapons and their proliferation, constituted a major threat to international peace and security.

"They may be small and light. But that is exactly what makes them more dangerous especially when placed in the wrong hands. By their very nature, small arms are easy to acquire, easy to use, easy to transport and easy to conceal," Amb. Kimani stressed.

To address this challenge, the Permanent Representative called for a comprehensive architecture built by collaboration and coordination among the relevant UN organs and agencies, regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as civil society.

He urged support in strengthening of regional initiatives, like the African Union's initiative to silence the guns, as well as those of several regional, sub-regional and national institutions.

This was with a particular emphasis on relevant aspects such as securing storage of weapons and ammunition, as well as sensitization and collection, and destruction of illicit small arms and light weapons.

"It is critical also to strengthen the capacity of United Nations missions and governments in weapons and ammunition management for purposes of prevention of diversion and illicit trade of small arms and light weapons," he said.

The UNSC President re-emphasized Kenya's support for continued discussion on the subject with a view to seeking effective ways of supporting peace operations.

The session was briefed by: Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; Gen. Badreldin Elamin Abdelgadir, Executive Secretary of the Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (RECSA); and, Mr. David Lochhead, a senior researcher on matters of small arms.

Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons Signature Event - October 6, 2021

"They may be small and light. But that is exactly what makes them more dangerous especially when placed in the wrong hands. By their very nature, small arms are easy to acquire, easy to use, easy to transport and easy to conceal"

Amb. Dr. Martin Kimani
Kenya's Permanent Representative to the UN, President of the UN Security Council for the month of October 2021





Media Stakeout

On October 12, 2021 His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta addressed the press during a Media Stakeout at the United Nations Security Council in New York, USA after presiding over the High-Level Open Debate at the Security Council under the theme – 'Diversity, State Building and the Search for Peace.'



On October 21, 2021 CS Amb Raychelle Omamo briefed the press at a Media Stakeout following the Security Council High-Level debate on the Great Lakes Region.



The debate was Kenya's second high level event and the first of the two ministerial-level meetings that the Cabinet Secretary chaired during Kenya's Presidency in October 2021.

Following Kenya's first signature event of it's UNSC Presidency, Amb. Martin Kimani briefed the press during a Media Stakeout on the UNSC deliberations on Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons which addressed the threat posed by their illicit proliferation to international peace and security.

October 6, 2021





Kenya convenes high-level debate on Great Lakes Region at the UNSC



Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo presided over the high-level debate on Great Lakes Region at the UN Security Council on October 20, 2021

During the High-Level Ministerial Debate on the Great Lakes Region, held on October 20, 2021, the Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo, who was presiding, called on the international community to assist individual countries of the Great Lakes Region in building capacities that were critical in forming reinvigorated strong states, able to safeguard its citizenry and resources.

The Cabinet Secretary noted the paradox that was the Great Lakes Region, exemplified by; a disconnect between the Great Lakes endowment in precious and rare minerals, hydro-carbons and impressive biodiversity on the one hand and the reality of pervasive poverty, under development and instability that had plagued the region for generations on the other hand.

The objective of the debate themed “Supporting the renewed commitment of the Great Lakes countries in seeking sustainable solutions to the root causes and drivers of conflict,” was for the Council to discuss ways to lawfully, transparently and sustainably utilise the natural resources in the Great Lakes Region in order to promote peace and sustainable development.

The Cabinet Secretary applauded the resilience and determination of the region to surmount its challenges and move forward, witnessed by the recent high level regional interventions to improve and bolster bilateral relations in order to end the pervasive cycles of hardship and conflict.

“Today, we applaud the countries of the Great Lakes Region for the commendable steps they have taken to consolidate peace and stability in the region. We commend the work of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) under the leadership of Angola in its endeavours to promote regional cooperation and constructive dialogue in the peaceful resolution of conflicts,” the CS stated



“I am happy to report that the Council commenced its consideration of the day's agenda with the adoption of a Presidential Statement on “The Situation in the Great Lakes Region” after weeks of negotiations. My delegation thanks all members of the Security Council for their support and positive engagement that led to this landmark product,” Amb. Omamo stated.

She further reaffirmed Kenya's commitment as a Great Lakes Region country to continue working within the regional mechanisms and in the Security Council in supporting the transformation of the region through better management of natural resources for shared prosperity.

The High-Level Ministerial Debate was briefed by H.E. Mr. Huang Xia, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, Amb. Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, the Assistant Secretary-General for Africa in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations (DPPA-DPO) and, the Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), Ambassador João Samuel Caholo.



Grassroots channels key to achieving sustainable peace, PS Kamau says



Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau presided over the Quarterly Open Debate on the "Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question" at the UN Security Council in New York on October 19, 2021

Kenya has encouraged Palestinian and Israeli leaders to embrace, scale up and actualize mutual peace by empowering those among them that are working for peace.

Amb. Macharia Kamau, the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said this on October 19, 2021, when he presided over the Quarterly Open Debate on the "Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question" held at the United Nations Security Council Chambers.

Noting the numerous occasions that the Council has addressed the Israeli – Palestine conflict, the continuing deteriorating situation in Palestine and the fragile humanitarian situation in Gaza, Amb. Kamau underlined that, "the answer in the end lies with the Israeli and Palestine people and their leaders."

PS Kamau invited the Council to a new thinking in proffering a way forward on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and emphasized that, "We should no longer prescribe peace, but rather allow Palestinians and Israeli to chart the course for peace and harmonious co-existence."

While acknowledging the place and importance of official channels in seeking to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Amb. Kamau pointed to the vast possibilities offered by grass root channels and leaderships.

To achieve long term solution and tangible outcomes, the Principal Secretary urged both parties to engage in genuine and inclusive dialogue that was initiated at the community level and further stressed that conflict and peace process discussion should be executed through grassroots organizations.

Amb. Kamau observed that, "the grassroots organizations represent years of directly and boldly dealing with socio-political theological concepts that define, interpret and contextualize the historic and immediate political experiences and realities of their daily lives."

The Principal Secretary called on the International Community to focus more on grass-root organizational efforts, who co-exist – on a daily basis – and constructively build inter-ethnic and inter-cultural relations.

The Open Debate proposed that the Security Council, the international community and the two parties should work under the framework of implementing UN Resolution 2334.

The debate was addressed by Mr. Tor Wennesland, the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. Daniel Levy, President of the United States/Middle East Project (USMEP), as well by Ms. Hanan Ashrawi, a member of the Civil Society and scholar.

Also participating were Amb. Gilad Erdan, the Permanent Representative of the State of Israel to the United Nations, as well as Dr. Riyadh H. Mansour of the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine.





Kenya takes the Security Council to the Sahel



The UN Security Council Members at the Presidential Palace meeting with the President of the Transition in Mali on October 25, 2021

Amb. Martin Kimani led a delegation of members of the Security Council on its first mission since the COVID-19 pandemic to the Sahel (Mali and Niger) from October 23 to 25, 2021. The trip included meetings with the transitional government, signatory movements to the 2015 peace agreement, civil societies, the international mediation team to the accord, and of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The meetings aimed at gaining some insight into the situation in Mali including the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).

During the meeting with the leadership in Mali, including a meeting with Assimi Goïta the current leader of the transitional Government, the council inquired on the preparations for holding free fair elections, within the established 18-month timeline including presidential elections on 27 February 2022.

Council members were concerned over the likelihood of the elections being held as planned since the second coup d'état on 24 May, 2021 which ousted the transition's top civilian leaders and made Colonel Assimi Goïta transitional president. Although Col. Goïta has emphasized that his government would only be transitional, his expressed intention to postpone the date of the election only added to the concern.

They also discussed the importance of prioritizing the implementation of the peace agreement, the growing threat posed by terrorism and violent extremism in Mali and the region. Despite the regional and international efforts, insecurity in Mali continued to grow. It has also fueled inter-communal violence and a worsening humanitarian situation. Noting this worsening situation, Council members commended the key role played by the national forces and the G5 Sahel joint force with the support of MINUSMA.

The Security Council also reiterated the need for an early conclusion of the accelerated DDR and requested the signatory movements to extend the necessary cooperation to achieve it.

The Security Council also welcomed the renewed commitment of the transitional authorities to expedite the implementation of the agreement, including the recent proposal to integrate 13,000 former rebel combatants into the army in the coming months.

During the visit, the council learned that Mali's interim government had expelled the representative of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) over actions incompatible with his status.

The Council then proceeded to Niger where the members met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prime Minister and President of Niger. These meetings focused on the growing security challenge in the region including the threat of terrorists and violent extremism.

France's intentions to reconstitute its presence in the Sahel, and Chad pulling out half of its troops from the G5 Sahel, has left Niger struggling to protect itself - Niger currently spends the majority of its budget on security. With its growing population leading to an education crisis plus the increasing challenges of climate change in Niger, the burden of regional security comes at a big cost for the small country.

The members also visited the G5 Sahel Joint Force and the memorial site of victims of terrorism. The joint force which is currently financed by the region was established by the G5 in 2017 to strengthen the fight against threats to peace and security and bolster development.

The question of its funding has been a topic of discussion in the Security Council for a few years with the Secretary-General recommending that the UN facilitate more predictable funding for its operations. The Secretary-General this summer circulated a proposal for a UN office to provide a logistical support package.



A3+1 reiterate support for Colombian Peace Process



Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the UN Security Council presided over the Briefing and Consultations on Colombia Peace Process at the UN Security Council on October 15, 2021.

Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (A3+1) have commended the Government of Colombia for its continued commitment to peace as they mark the fifth anniversary of the historic Final Peace Agreement in a few weeks.

In a statement read on behalf of the A3+1 by Inga Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations at the briefing and consultations on Colombia Peace Process (UN Verification Mission) held at the Security Council Chamber, the A3+1 observed that there has been progress and setbacks since the signing of the Final Agreement.

"We welcome the positive development achieved over the years and encourage the parties to consolidate gains and further urge them to pursue with rigor the vital agreement," the statement read.

The A3+1 condemned the deteriorating security situation and called for urgent policies, plans and programs to address the security challenges.

They echoed the Secretary General's call for the warring parties to ensure women, youth, indigenous and afro-Colombian former combatants participate in decision making to guarantee equal opportunities and protection measures.

The four countries urged the parties to settle differences as well as advance on the public policy to dismantle illegal arms groups and accelerate the implementation of the comprehensive programme for women social leaders and Human Rights Defenders.

"Full and sustainable reintegration of former combatants is crucial," Ms. King stated and called for the resolution of differences surrounding the allocation of land and housing, including the challenges facing former combatants residing outside the territorial areas for training and reintegration.

"Accepting transgressions is essential for forgiveness and creates a platform for justice, reparation, reconciliation, non-repetition and full integration of former combatants," Ms. King urged.

The A3+1 called on all parties to the Final Agreement to ensure that it is implemented comprehensively and reiterated full support for Colombian peace process and the UN Verification Mission.

The meeting was briefed by Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, the Special Representative and Head of the UN Verification Mission in Colombia, as well as civil society representatives Ms. Bibiana Peñaranda of the "Butterfly with New Wings" and Ms. Daniela Soto, a Nasa ethnic group rights defender from the Cauca region of Colombia. In addition, H.E. Marta Lucía Ramírez, Vice President and Foreign Minister of Colombia, participated in the briefing.

One of the main priorities for the A3+1 as elected members of the United Nations Security Council is to champion the collective interests of a peaceful, secure and prosperous community of Nations particularly by being a bold voice for Africa and the Sixth Region, the Caribbean, in addressing the new and emerging threats to international peace and security.



Kenya advances Pan Africanist ideals during meeting on Haiti

During Kenya's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council, the A-3+1 (Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and St Vincent and the Grenadines) hosted an Arria Formula meeting on the situation in Haiti on October 15, 2021. An "Arria" must be convened by a member of the Council in order for the meeting to take place.

The Arria Formula Meeting which attracted the participation of all members of the Security Council and many UN members was titled *"Beyond the inconvenient truths about underdevelopment in Haiti: seeking pan-African solutions/pathways and supporting national dialogue and reconciliation."* The objective was to engage in a genuine dialogue on how Haiti could transform from its current state to one of stability and focused on the country's socio-economic development agenda.

Among the participating dignitaries were H.E. Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves, the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Amb. Macharia Kamau, the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and H.E. Ariel Henry, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Haiti. The briefers included H.E. Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu County, in Kenya, H.E. Dr. Carla Natalia Barnett, the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and H.E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary-General of La Francophonie.

It is worth recalling that Haiti was the first country to abolish the reprehensible practice of slavery and one whose triumphant revolution inspired liberation crusades across continents. Unfortunately, Haiti's glorious march to freedom and independence has suffered tremendous setbacks. As a beacon of freedom and hope for many colonial countries fighting for independence during the 19th and 20th Centuries, Haiti has endured many challenges due to a continuing legacy of slavery, colonization and environmental degradation.

Speakers at the meeting were all in agreement that the country was in deep crisis, lacked an effectively functioning governmental administration and was saddled with weak public institutions. It was further noted that this had been compounded by a breakdown in national security, law and order, a situation that had culminated in the regrettable assassination of Haiti's President, H.E. Jovenel MOÏSE.

It was also observed that against this background, there were emerging frustrations within the international community over Haiti's history of protracted conflicts and related volatile natural disasters, which had persisted institutional failures. Similarly, repeated policies from external interests had failed to address the problems in Haiti, leading to growing reluctance of additional external intervention efforts.



Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau addresses the Arria Formula meeting on Haiti on October 15, 2021 in New York, USA

A key general consensus was that Haiti was in urgent need of very substantial assistance and that in light of Haiti's history, origins, ethnic make-up, geological location and contribution to the historic Black Liberation struggle, the nations of the Caribbean and Africa – CARICOM and the AU – could provide acceptable and exercise alternate fraternal responsibilities over Haiti.

This significant conclusion is consistent with His Excellency President Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta's sentiments and recommendations, on Haiti, which were conveyed by Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau in his remarks.

In this regard, Amb. Kamau noted that President Kenyatta's pan Africanist ideals were rooted in the firm belief that the familial bonds of blood and heritage that existed between the peoples of Africa and their kith and kin in the Caribbean could never be broken. This belief was further reinforced by the recently convened first ever Africa-CARICOM Summit – under the Chairmanship of President Kenyatta – on September 7th, 2021, as well as by President Kenyatta's just concluded fruitful visit to the Americas.

As part of President Kenyatta's engagement with world leaders, particularly with the leadership of the Caribbean while in Barbados, the President was persuaded that it was only through demonstrable leadership by members of the CARICOM and Africa – and other partners – that credible solutions to the challenges of Haiti could be proffered.

It is with President Kenyatta's pan-Africanist worldview, that Kenya promised 2,000 placements in Kenyan training institutions to Haiti. This would be for purposes of capacitating the Haitian government's governance competencies in their security personnel, health workers, teachers and in any other fields that Haitian authorities would deem vital in turning around their country's fortunes.

While expressing profound gratitude and welcoming Kenya's offer for help, the Prime Minister of Haiti appealed to other partners for similar tangible support that would be instrumental in assisting his country break the vicious cycle of crises, which had incessantly hindered Haiti's progress.



Kenya, USA sign MOU on SME Trade Initiative



H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta with Ms. Florizelle Liser (L) President and CEO Corporate Council for Africa and Ms. Carole Kariuki, (R) CEO Kenya Private Sector Alliance in New York, on October 12, 2021.

His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta graced the Small and Medium Size (SMEs) Trade and Entrepreneurship event where Kenya and USA signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch the joint “Kenya-USA SME Trade and Entrepreneurship Initiative,” in New York, USA on October 11, 2021. Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo accompanied the President.

President Kenyatta, who was in New York to preside over the affairs of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in the month of October 2021, witnessed the signing of the MOU between the Corporate Council on Africa (USA) and Kenya Private Sector Alliance (Kenya) led by Ms. Florizelle Liser, President and CEO Corporate Council for Africa and Carole Kariuki, CEO Kenya Private Sector Alliance respectively.

The initiative aims at scaling up the SMEs trade of Kenya’s women and youth owned entrepreneurs with U.S small, women, minority and diaspora – owned businesses.

Speaking at the event, President Kenyatta commended the partnership between CCA and KEPSA for the initiative that focuses on enhancing the capacity of SMEs. He noted their contribution and efforts in minimizing the effects of challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic crisis especially on children, youth and women.

President Kenyatta noted that the Kenya-US SME Trade and Entrepreneurship initiative will help SMEs in both countries address the current challenges many face to access the two markets including training, mentoring on opportunities available and access to credit and finance.

He stressed that the partnership between CCA and KEPSA has been instrumental in promoting business and investment relations between the United States of America and Africa.

Emphasizing that Kenya initiated negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in mid-2020 to ensure that market access to the USA is not disrupted upon the scheduled expiry of AGOA in 2025, President Kenyatta encouraged the partnership, and commended them for putting into perspective enhancement of youth and women SMES to optimally go beyond the expiry of AGOA mechanism in 2021.

“I want to assure that Kenya is determined to strengthen trade and investment relations with the USA so as to keep growing volume of trade witnessed in the last few years,” President Kenyatta said.

Ms. Liser, commended President Kenyatta for his leadership and commitment to creating a conducive business environment for the benefit of both local and foreign investors.

The Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) is the leading U.S. business association and focuses on connecting business interests in Africa. CCA represents a broad cross section of member companies from small and medium size businesses to multinationals as well as U.S. and African firms which represent a diverse pool of industries in sectors of agribusiness, energy, finance, health, ICT, infrastructure and security.

The event was attended by Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina (Trade), Principal Secretaries Amb. Macharia Kamau (Foreign Affairs) and Amb. Johnson Weru (Trade), CCA and KEPSA members among others.





Kenya calls for sustainable peace in Yemen



Kenya's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Martin Kimani chaired over the briefing session of the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East with specific reference to Yemen, on October 14, 2021.

Speaking during the session, Amb. Kimani stressed Kenya's deep concern over the recent events in Yemen, including the renewed attacks and increased violation of Human Rights, that continued to claim hundreds of lives each week.

"We condemn in the strongest terms the acts of violence that have led to loss of life and injury of innocent civilians and destruction of civilian objects." Amb. Kimani emphasized.

He commended the efforts of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General in helping the parties break the existing stalemate and for facilitating a political solution.

Ambassador Kimani further called on those involved in the civil war to make necessary compromises, agree on a working nationwide ceasefire and recommit to a negotiated political solution

Similarly, Amb. Kimani, highlighted that the most vulnerable including children, women and the elderly continued to bear the brunt of the war, noting with concern, that the humanitarian crisis had been compounded by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

To this end, the PR urged the international community, financial institutions and development partners to provide more humanitarian support with the goal of addressing the current humanitarian situation and advised them to inject the much-needed foreign reserves to Yemen to resuscitate the ailing economy.

On the issue of the Safer Tanker, Amb. Kimani recognized the heroism and professionalism of its workers and called on the authorities handling the ship to engage constructively in finding a solution to the looming environmental catastrophe with its attendant economic consequences.

Many members of the Security Council underscored that an inclusive approach that entailed comprehensive political process was paramount.

They emphasised that the situation in Yemen did not need a military solution rather, a political process was what was required. A ceasefire by all the parties involved in the conflict was urgent. Likewise, it was important that the parties to the conflict observed all aspects of international humanitarian law.

Amb. Kimani reaffirmed Kenya's solidarity with the people of Yemen in their quest for peace and security.

The session was briefed by the UN Special Envoy for Yemen, Ambassador Hans Grundberg, the Acting Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief, Mr. Ramesh Rajasingham and Ms. Maysaa Shujaa Al Deen, a Civil Society Representative from Yemen. Amb. Khaled Mahfoodh Abdulla Bahah, the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations also participated



PS Kamau hosts Special Blue Economy Event

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau hosted a high-level Blue Economy side event on the sidelines of Kenya's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of October in New York, USA.

Speaking at the event, held on October 15, 2021, Amb. Kamau stated that, the special event was aimed at advancing some of the commitments made during the SBEC 2018 and focus increased attention towards the 2022 UN Oceans Conference to be co-hosted by Kenya and Portugal in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022.

He added that, Kenya is committed to continue championing the global oceans agenda in order to galvanize the global community to commit to adopting innovative strategies that will hasten the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)14.

"We believe this conference will make systemic changes to the way the world approaches the conservation and sustainable use of oceans. Kenya's aspiration is that the Conference will go beyond the re-statement of political commitments and deliver the actions that are necessary and urgent in achieving healthy productive oceans," PS Kamau said.

The Principal Secretary also highlighted two forthcoming events that provide opportunity for building momentum to the 2022 Oceans Conference. The events being UNEP@50 Commemorations scheduled for March 2022 at UNON in Nairobi, and Stockholm+50 co-hosted by Kenya and Sweden on June, 2022.



PS Amb. Macharia Kamau hosted a high-level Blue Economy side event on the sidelines of Kenya's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of October in New York, USA on October 15, 2021.

During the Special Blue Economy event co-hosted by Kenya, Canada, Japan and Portugal a book - Science, Research and Innovation for Harnessing the Blue Economy, was officially launched. The book is the outcome of the Science and Research Symposium segment of the 2018 Sustainable Blue Economy Conference (SBEC) that was held in Kenya.

The publication is a collaborative initiative between the Government of Kenya and the Stockholm Environment Institute, and it represents the critical developments that have taken place since the 2018 conference.

The 156-page book highlights a broad range of red-letter topics canvassed by the knowledge community, including the place of science and research in the blue economy; the sustainable use of minerals and energy resources, including deep sea mining; climate change and the blue economy; sustainable shipping and, maritime transport, management of coastal zones as well as the governance and security of the blue economy. It also highlights a barrage of new initiatives triggered by SBEC 2018 and intended to advance the promise of the blue economy globally

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Peter Thomson, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for the Ocean congratulated the Government of Kenya for ensuring the publication of the book, noting that it was "a timely contribution to the repertoire of knowledge, scientific information and innovations that have the potential to inform on the ground actions across the world, that are necessary to inform SDG 14, and all other that have a water and ocean dimension." Amb. Thompson said.

He added that it remains impossible, "to have a healthy planet without a healthy ocean and that a sustainable blue economy is humanity's only hope for a future that can be bequeathed to the next generation."

The event brought together Permanent Representatives of Canada and Portugal to the United Nations, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, representatives from several member states' Permanent Missions in New York, UN organizations including UNESCO-IOC, UN Global Compact. Also in attendance were the African Union Commission, various multilateral organizations, private sector, NGOs and philanthropic organizations, as well as leading global research and knowledge communities.





Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative and President of the Security Council for the month of October, 2021 presides over the Briefing and Consultation on MONUSCO on October 5, 2021

A3+1 calls for intensified humanitarian support for DRC

The United Nations Security Council convened on October 5, 2021 to discuss the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO).

The briefing on MONUSCO was presided over by Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative (PR) to the UN and President of the Security Council for the month of October, 2021 who read a statement on behalf of the A3+1 (Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines).

In the Statement, the Permanent Representative underscored that, "the A3+1 condemns all forms of human rights abuses and violence against civilians and demand that all armed groups cease the despicable atrocities."

The A3+1 commended the international community for supporting the dire humanitarian situation in eastern DRC and urged the need to scale up assistance. They took note of the joint transition plan for MONUSCO and called for a clear transition, efficient transfer of important tasks and enhanced peace building efforts that promote post-conflict reconstruction.

Acknowledging the progress made by the Government of DRC in diminishing armed group activities, the Permanent Representative commended the positive regional dynamics led by H.E. President Felix Tshisekedi and the leadership of neighbouring countries. This is with a view of further consolidation of their bilateral ties and mutual cooperation, which would reinforce peace and stability.

"We commend the efforts made by the government, with support of MONUSCO to improve and strengthen its weapons and ammunition's management systems. We encourage continued regional approaches such as the Nairobi Protocol for Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lake Region," Amb. Kimani emphasized.

The Permanent Representative, reiterated the A3+1 steadfast support for MONUSCO in the efforts to provide security for the civilian population and support the strengthening of key state institutions in the DRC.

"We stand in solidarity with the government and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in their quest for sustainable peace and socio-economic prosperity," Amb. Kimani reiterated.

The meeting was briefed by Ms. Bintou Keita, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO); Ms. Nelly Godelive Mbangu president of Dynamique des femmes' jurists and Ms. Nelly Mbangu. coordinator of Sauti ya Mama Mukongomani (Voice of Congolese Women)





Pictorial

On the sidelines of UNSC Presidency

Amb. Martin Kimani met Her Excellency Marta Lucía Ramírez, Vice President of Colombia at the Security Council President's office in New York, USA on October 15, 2021

They discussed the country's commendable progress in the peace process. Amb. Kimani noted that many countries seeking peace after conflict can take very positive lessons from Colombia



On October 16, 2021 Amb. Martin Kimani held bilateral talks with H.E. Nikola Selaković, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Serbia before the briefing of the Security Council on UNMIKosovo

On October 18, 2021, Amb. Martin Kimani exchanged views with Huang Xia, Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, ahead of the high-level debate on the region which was a signature event.





CAS Namwamba participates at NAMs 60th Anniversary in Belgrade

CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba at the High Level Commemorative Meeting to mark the 60th Anniversary of NAM in Belgrade, Serbia on October 11, 2021



Kenya participated at the historic High- Level Commemorative Meeting to mark the 60th anniversary of the First Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) countries held in Belgrade, Serbia on October 12, 2021.

Foreign Affairs Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) Hon. Ababu Namwamba represented H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya at the occasion and delivered his warm greetings and best wishes. He also conveyed greetings from Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo.

The NAM meeting that was co-hosted by H.E. Mr Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement and H.E. Mr. Aleksander Vucic, President of the Republic of Serbia is home to more than one hundred and twenty developed and developing nations. Kenya is a member of NAM.

Speaking at the occasion, Hon Namwamba noted that, in the sixty years since the Non-Aligned Movement held its first conference in Beldgrade, the global arena has undergone profound changes. Patterns of global interdependence have changed, alliances continue shifting and the world continues to experience numerous traditional and non-traditional challenges to peace, security, multilateralism and development.



"This gathering of distinguished representatives from all over the global south today is a statement that NAM has evolved from just a concept to an association that is representative of a multilateral platform and guardian of important shared norms, value and principles," Hon. Namwamba stated.

He stressed that, the commemoration offers an important opportunity to look back but also look ahead. To look ahead, the CAS highlighted that NAM needs to remain the custodian of the organizations founding principles and objectives that call for shared responsibility, accountability, cooperation, collaboration and solidarity.

He urged NAM members to adjust to new realities and continue being the lead voice offering pragmatic solution in economic development and recovery issues especially in post covid-19 pandemic.

CAS Namwamba called on NAM to continue playing its long-standing historic role in the global arena and the United Nations General Assembly as the voice that pushes for respect of the UN Charter; peaceful political transition; address climate change issues and security challenges including violent extremism and terrorism as well as conflict mediation and resolutions.

Hon. Namwamba reiterated Kenya's readiness to engage constructively with the NAM configuration including towards an inclusive forward looking security council.

He encouraged all members to rethink how to multilaterally build between while ensuring no one is left behind.

CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba held talks with his Russian counterpart, H.E Mr. Vershinin Sergey Vasilievich, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation on the sidelines of the NAM High Level Commemorative Summit in Belgrade, Serbia. Discussed issues of mutual interest including multilateral cooperation.



The UN Security Council President Amb. Martin Kimani presided over the briefing on MINUSCA on October 18, 2021 at the Security Council Chamber in New York.

A3+1 encourages CAR to abide by political agreements and cease hostilities

Ambassador Martin Kimani presided over the briefing on United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) on October 18, 2021 at the Security Council Chamber in New York.

In a joint statement delivered by Amb. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia, the A3+1 countries (Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) welcomed the declaration of ceasefire by His Excellency Faustin Archange Touadera, President of the Central Africa Republic, and encouraged all parties to abide by the Political Agreement and cease hostilities.

The A3+1 urged all parties in CAR to engage constructively in inclusive dialogue to pave way for long-term stability.

Focusing on four main points that included; political, security, humanitarian situations and the mandate of the MINUSCA, the joint statement expressed satisfaction with the government led efforts at the political front and encouraged inclusive dialogue to pave way for long-term stability.

On the security front, the A3+1 registered concern over the increased volatile situation thus endangering the lives of civilian population, humanitarian actors and UN Peace Keepers.

On MINUSCA, the A3+1 countries commended its efforts regarding protection of civilians in accordance with its mandate and encouraged its engagement with all stakeholders to improve coordination between the mission and national defence forces.

They recommended the renewal of MINUSCA's mandate and stressed the importance of providing the mission with the necessary capacities and resources to effectively discharge its mandate.

The A3+1 countries urged all parties in CAR to prioritize the interest of their country and put an end to the suffering of its people to ensure they live in peace and security and enjoy sustainable development and prosperity.

The briefing was addressed by Amb. Mankeur Ndiaye, the Special Representative for the CAR and Head of MINUSCA, H.E. Mr. Adeoye Bankole, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the African Union and Amb. Olof Skoog, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations. The President of the Central Africa Republic, H.E. Faustine Archange Touadera also participated at the briefing.





Kenya calls for sustainable solution to the conflict in Syria



Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the Security Council in the month of October presides over the Briefing and Consultations on the Middle East on October 4, 2021

Kenya as the President of the United Nations Security Council for the month of October 2021, chaired the briefing on the Middle East including on the Syrian Arab Republic's Chemical Weapons File.

Speaking at the briefing held on October 4, 2021, Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative underscored Kenya's position on the use of chemical weapons saying that, "the use of chemical weapons constitutes a grave violation of international law and cannot be justified under any circumstance."

"Kenya as a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, reiterates its support for the mandate of

the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) as the technically competent International authority in its area of work," the PR said.

He encouraged cooperation and engagement between the Syrian Arab Republic and the OPCW regarding the unresolved issues and underscored Kenya's support on an inclusive Syrian-led and Syrian owned political process as the only avenue to a sustainable solution.

The Council was briefed by Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, with the representatives of both the Syrian Arab Republic and of Turkey participating under rule 37 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure.





Kenya calls on the Security Council to engage actively on Climate Change matters



During the Arria-Formula Meeting on “Sea-Level Rise and its Implications for International Peace and Security” convened by the Republic of Vietnam, Kenya called on the Security Council to actively engage in climate change matters with regard to the nexus between sea-level rise and international and regional peace, security and stability.

Speaking during the meeting held in New York, USA on October 18, 2021, Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative underscored that climate change poses the gravest threat to humanity and that sea-level rise is not just a sustainable development issue since it imposes on statehood and territory with far reaching consequences on states especially Small Island Development States.

“Climate Change adaptation will be expensive. Therefore, the countries most impacted by climate change need to get wealthy to afford it. Climate action must offer a viable development path,” Amb. Kimani stressed.

He urged the United Nations bodies and agencies to urgently design and roll out comprehensive mitigation and adaptive measures through governments and society approach; undertake further studies and hold conversations on pertinent issues at local, regional and international levels.

In light of the battle against the effects of climate change, Amb. Kimani underscored the need to strengthen the United Nations Environment Program's place at the centre of environmental multilateralism, as it prepares to celebrate its 50th birthday.

He highlighted that the definitive research on global ocean-related security challenges will need to benefit the science-policy interface that is anchored in the work of UNEP.

The Permanent Representative reaffirmed that Kenya will continue to be an anchor in the articulation of global environmental issues.

“We remain a strong, consistent voice for Africa and the Global South including Small Island Developing States in the pursuit of representative solutions on the nexus between sea level rise and international security,” Amb. Kimani stated.

Kenya commends the UN Mission in Kosovo

Kenya commended the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) for its efforts to promote security, stability and respect for human rights in Kosovo and in the region in line with its mandate.

Speaking at a meeting held at the United Nations Security Council Chambers on October 15, 2021, Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative who was presiding stated that, Kenya welcomed the dialogue between the two parties in an effort to normalize relations and commended the participation of women and young people in decision making processes.

The Permanent Representative highlighted the negative effects of hate speech on governance and welcomed the pilot initiative by UNMIK to monitor and counter hate speech. He informed that Kenya would hold an Arria Formula meeting on “Addressing and Countering Hate Speech and Preventing Incitement to Discrimination, Hostility and violence on Social Media” in the course of the month.

He further added that the objective of the meeting would be for the Security Council to have a keener appreciation of the ways that hate speech and incitement to discrimination, hostility and violence in conflict situations was spread through social media. This was with a view to provide a way forward in improving both the responses of the private sector and Security Council to hate speech and incitement in conflict situations.

“I echo the call of the Secretary General's report for the provision of an enabling environment for the safe, dignified and sustainable return and reintegration of all internally displaced persons and returnees into Kosovo society,” Amb. Kimani stated.

He reiterated the need for the parties to be consistent in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 and constructively engage in dialogue in order to make swift progress on comprehensive normalization of their relations.



A3+1 calls for Unity in Haiti

Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative to the UN and President of the UN Security Council for the month of October, delivers a statement on behalf of the A3+1 (Kenya, Niger, Tunisia & Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) on the crisis facing Haiti on October 4, 2021



Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative to the UN chaired the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) on October 4, 2021.

A statement read on behalf of the A3+1 (Kenya, Niger, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) expressed deep concern about the multifaceted crisis facing Haiti and called for intensified attention of the international community to stabilize the current situation.

The statements read by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, the Permanent Representative of the Saint Vincent and Grenadines, stressed that the Caribbean nation required urgent, specific and sustained support, deepened solidarity, enhanced partnership and strengthened cooperation within Haiti from the international community.

"The only solution to the existing political impasse is through a genuine, inclusive, broad based Haitian-owned and Haitian-led national dialogue process," read the statement.

The A3+1 called for All Haitian stakeholders, contending political forces to set aside their differences, build trust and unite in the common interest of the Haitian people.

They reiterated the call for international support to strengthen the states security and assist in preventing Haiti from further descending into an abyss.

The briefing session was addressed by two briefers; Amb. Helen La Lime, the Special Representative and Head of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), and Ms. Emmanuela Douyon a Haitian civil society member. H.E. Claude Joseph, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Haiti, also addressed the Council.

The Council members and the briefers noted the challenges, coupled with rising insecurity in the country had conspired to perpetuate economic, socio-political, environmental and humanitarian crises in the country. They observed the need to engage and assist Haiti as it risked being forgotten in the crisis.

UN Disarmament Graduation at UNGA



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs congratulates Mr. Abdirahman Abdullahi, Second Secretary based at the Ministry Headquarters for successful graduation, after ten weeks of training in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, held at the UN Headquarters in New York on October 28, 2021.

The Program aimed at strengthening fellow's expertise and professional training in negotiation techniques and multilateral diplomacy; critical thinking and understanding of factors that either foster or undermine disarmament efforts; the ability to bridge political, regional and technological divides by bridging together ideas and attitudes that promote tolerance, dialogue and concerted international efforts towards disarmament.

The ceremony was attended by Amb. Njambi Kinyungu, Deputy Permanent Representative at the Kenya Mission to the United Nations and Amb. Salim M. Salim Director General, Multilateral and International Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



County Officials Trained on International and Diplomatic Engagements



Kisumu County Governor, H.E Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o and Foreign Affairs Amb. Gathoga Chege, in a group photo with workshop facilitators and participants in Kisumu from October 25-29, 2021.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted training for Nyanza region County officials on Policy Guidelines on International and Diplomatic Engagements. The five-day workshop was held from October 25 - 29 2021 in Kisumu County.

The workshop was officially opened by Kisumu County Governor, H.E Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o. Amb. Gathoga Chege, Director, Liaison Parliamentary and County Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, read the opening remarks on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary, Amb. Raychelle Omamo.

The training was attended by 22 officials from six Counties in Nyanza namely; Kisumu, Siaya, Homa Bay, Kisii, Migori and Nyamira and officials from selected Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

The workshop sought to situate the County Staff within the prevailing contextual framework of diplomacy, protocol and etiquette principles operating within the working environment for the county. This would ensure a well-informed County leadership on; Kenyan Foreign Policy, diaspora engagement, economic and environmental diplomacy, planning and organization of official functions among others even as they engage with the international community.

Professor Anyang' Nyong'o said the training was significant and a game-changer that would go a long way to bridge capacity gaps within the County officials especially while handling of high-profile visitors.

"There have been capacity gaps, among County government employees especially on protocol issues, international travel policies, and diplomatic etiquette." Prof. Nyong'o said.

He commended the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for rolling out the training which was of immense importance. He said the training also underscores the importance of cooperation between the two levels of the Government under the spirit of 48 governments, One Nation.

CS Amb Raychelle Omamo in a speech read on her behalf said the overall objective of the workshops was to equip County officials with skills that will enable them effectively engage in the course of their routine duties as well as in the event of interactions with the international community.

"The training would also make them understand the link between Ministry of Foreign Affairs through its Directorate (Liaison, Parliamentary and County Affairs) and County Governments as well as provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences.

"While hosting VIPs and VVIPs both domestic and international it is important to be observant of people's culture, communication and time management. It is also important to understand Kenya's international obligations including official communication and correspondence with Foreign Governments." CS Omamo said.

She urged participants to always apply standard international protocol guidelines when engaging with Diplomatic Corps and other international and regional players in order to safeguard Kenya's Image and Prestige.

She emphasized on the need for counties to involve diaspora in development agenda and issues on labour migration. This was echoed by Kisumu Governor who said he was keen on investments back home by Kenyans living in the diaspora. "It is in this regard that Kisumu will from 13th to 15th December hold an international Investment conference that targets both local and international investors."

Prof Anyang' Nyong'o called on the County officials during their travels abroad, to market their counties to the international community.

"I hope that at the end of this training our staff from both the Executive and County Assemblies will be equipped with the necessary information while traveling abroad and to train other county staff."

Professor Anyang' Nyong'o also took the time to inform on the upcoming Africities conference to be held in Kisumu in May 2022.

The Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau said the Ministry would conduct several trainings of County Officials on Policy Guidelines on International and Diplomatic Engagement.

He said the training and interaction between the county officials and Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided a platform for coordination and consultations between the two levels as provided in the constitution.

The facilitators were drawn from current and former ambassadors of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other Agencies. They included; Amb. Gathoga Chege, Amb. Isaiya Kabira, Ms. Alice Avedi, Amb. Frost Josiah, Amb. Philip Richard Owade, Ms. Harriet M. Nduma, Ms. Nasimiyu Wekesa, Ms. Elizabeth Owino of Kenya School of Government, Amb. Samuel Gitonga, and Mr. Vincent Omuse.



Kenya signs three Agreements with Barbados



On October 7, 2021, Kenya and Barbados signed three agreements: Trade and Investment; Air Service Agreement; and Development of the National Botanical Gardens of Barbados. CS Amb Raychelle Omamo signed for Kenya in the presence of H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta and H.E Mia Mottley Prime Minister of Barbados.

On October 7 2021, Kenya signed three bilateral agreements with Barbados that are meant to promote and enhance bilateral and trade relations between Kenya and the Island nation. The agreements on Trade and Investment, Bilateral Air Service and the International Section of the National Botanical Garden were signed following a Joint Business forum and a Joint Commission for Cooperation JCC.

Kenya's Foreign Cabinet Secretary Amb Raychelle Omamo signed on behalf of the Kenyan government while Lisa Cummins and Andrian Forde, Barbados ministers for Tourism and International Transport and Environment and Natural Beautification respectively, represented their country. The signing ceremony in Bridgetown was witnessed by President Uhuru Kenyatta and Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados.

The Agreement on Trade and Investment provides the framework for the establishment of a Joint Committee on Trade and Investment as a well as engagement between the respective Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

President Kenyatta said Africa can bring back to the African continent the Caribbean region on matters education, culture and Sports.

"This is an area where we are hoping to find great success that will make it easy for the business men and women, those seeking to reengage with the African continent, to be able to do so without having to wait for visas through third parties" President Kenyatta said.

H.E Mia Mottley, the Prime Minister of Barbados said relations, trade and investment can thrive between the two countries if the middle men are removed in our business engagement.



On October 5 2021, President Uhuru Kenyatta who was the host of UNCTAD14, handed over the chairmanship of UNCTAD14 to Barbados Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley at the UNCTAD15 world leaders summit, which took place in Bridgetown, Barbados

"Nothing should separate us, Kenya and Barbados must be resilient to the times whether the times are affected by the pandemic or other causes" she said with reference to Covid 19 pandemic and the hurricane storm that hit the country in recent past.

On environmental conservation, Kenya made a commitment to provide support for the development of the International section of the National Botanical Garden (NBG) in Barbados as a permanent reminder of the Bajans African Heritage and Connection with the African people but also the need to protect and preserve bio diversity.

Through the Bilateral Air Service Agreement, Kenya can take advantage of direct flights to New York through code sharing with airlines flying to Barbados. This will improve trade relations through export of Kenyan horticultural products.

Other areas the two countries are seeking to collaborate on included Agriculture, Health, Education, Tourism, Arts and culture, and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT).



Kenya rejects ICJ ruling on maritime dispute with Somalia



On October 13, 2021 H.E. Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander in Chief of the Defence Forces issued a statement on the International Court of Justice judgement in Maritime Delimitation Case while in New York, USA

On October 13, 2021, Kenya expressed dismay over the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling on the Maritime Delimitation in the Indian Ocean case between Kenya and Somalia.

Responding to the ruling, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta while in New York, USA, said that, "Kenya rejects the ruling in its totality and does not recognize the findings in the decision."

He added that the verdict embodies a perpetuation of the ICJ's jurisdictional overreach noting several biases the court had exhibited over the years.

The President raised concern on the implication of the ruling for the Horn of Africa region and the International Law generally.

He emphasized that, Kenya as an avid supporter of the rule of law, accepted the Court's jurisdiction through a declaration in 1965, with an objectively clear outline of certain executed matters.

"At that time, Kenya never imagined that ICJ would violate the declaration to the extent of imposing its mandate over expressly excluded matters," President Kenyatta stated.

Noting that Kenya and Somalia are neighbouring states with a common border and communities with shared social, cultural and religious practices, he stressed that the decision is, in the circumstances, a zero sum game, which will strain the relations between the two countries and reverse the social, political and economic gains and also potentially aggravate the peace and security situation in the fragile Horn of Africa region.

President Kenyatta thus called on the International community to create an enabling environment for the pursuit of a negotiated settlement in the matter.

The President underscored that, Kenya is committed to a diplomatic solution of the current impasse and will therefore seek to resolve the matter through the institutions of the African Union such as the African Union Border Programme and its peace and security architecture, in addition to other bilateral arrangements.

He reiterated his commitment to solve the matter amicably and urged all Kenyans to remain calm as the government remains fully seized of the matter.

Ahead of the judgement by the ICJ, on October 8, 2021, Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau in a Press Conference highlighted Kenya's position saying that Kenya on September 24, 2021 joined other members of the UN in withdrawing its recognition of the International Court of Justice compulsory jurisdiction.

"As a sovereign nation Kenya shall no longer be subjected to an international court or tribunal without its express consent," Amb. Kamau stated.

He added that, Kenya recognizes and has consistently indicated as much, that the Judgement of the Court – whichever way – will have profound security, political, social and economic ramifications in the region and beyond.



PS Macharia Kamau, flanked by Lt. General Francis Ogolla, Vice Chief of Kenya Defence Forces, Mr. Kennedy Ogeto, Solicitor General and Dr. Ibrahiim Mohamed, PS Ministry of Defence during the Press Conference on October 8, 2021.



IN BRIEF

President Uhuru Kenyatta held bilateral talks with the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres at the UN Headquarters in New York on October 11, 2021.

They discussed several subjects of global importance among them the security and humanitarian crises in Haiti and Ethiopia's Tigray region as well as preparations for the forthcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland.



President Uhuru Kenyatta hailed multilateralism as the panacea for the current global peace and security challenges including climate change, public health and the economy.

The President rallied world leaders to embrace inclusive, fair and consistent multilateralism saying the arrangement will guarantee sustainable development as envisioned by the United Nations .

The Head of State spoke in New York on October 12, 2021 during a Global Leaders' high-level discussion organized by the International Peace Institute (IPI) on the second day of his official visit to the US.

His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta with Amb. Martin Kimani, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations and the staff of the Mission at the Security Council Chamber in New York, USA on October 17, 2021





In Brief

CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo held bilateral talks with Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under Secretary General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) in New York, USA on October 19, 2021.

The meeting focused on national, regional and global counter terrorism efforts.



On October 21, 2021, ICGLR Executive Secretary Amb. Joao Caholo paid a courtesy call on CS Amb Raychelle Omamo at the Security Council President's office and exchanged views on peace and security issues in the Great Lakes Region.

On October 21, 2021 CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo held talks with Mr. Artul Khare, Under Secretary General for the Department of Operational Support at the UN headquarters in New York, USA. Discussions focused on Kenya's support to the Humanitarian and Logistics Hub.

CS Omamo noted that the setting up of the logistics hub is timely and will serve the humanitarian needs of the region.

She appreciated the immense support the United Nations Department of Operational Support continues to provide to all peacekeepers including those from Kenya.





In Brief



Cabinet Secretary
Ambassador Raychelle
Omamo with Ambassadors
and staff members at the
Security Council Chambers
at the United Nations
Headquarters in New York,
USA

October 20, 2021

Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo held bilateral talks with the US Permanent Representative to the UN Amb. Linda Thomas-Greenfield at the UN Headquarters, New York. The meeting lauded the excellent relations between Kenya and the United States of America under the Bilateral Strategic Dialogue.

October 22, 2021



On October 15, 2021 Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau participated in the UN Oceans Advisory Committee meeting held at the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the UN, New York.

The meeting deliberated on reinvigorating the preparatory process of Oceans Conference scheduled for June 2022 in Portugal. Kenya will co-host.

On October 15, 2021 in New York, Principal Secretary, Amb. Macharia Kamau held a stakeholders briefing on preparedness for UNEP@50 and Stockholm+50 meetings scheduled for March 2022 in Nairobi and June 2022 in Stockholm respectively. The meeting will be co-hosted by Kenya and Sweden.





In Brief



On October 28, 2021, CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba graced a reception in New York, USA hosted by Permanent Mission of Thailand to the UN for the International Law Commission (ILC) women candidates who include Kenya's very own Prof. Phoebe Okowa.

CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba led the Kenyan delegation at the 39th Session of the Executive Ministerial Council of African Union in Nelson Mandela Hall, AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Africa CDC, food security and election of some AU organs was among the key agenda.

October 14, 2021



CAS Hon. Ababu Namwamba at the High Level Summit commemorating 60th anniversary of NAM shared a moment with Eng Abdelhakim Gamal Abdelnasser, son of Gamal Abdel Nasser Hussein, 2nd president of Egypt (1954-1970), towering pan-Africanist, multilateralist and founding father of NAM.

Foreign Affairs Office Administrators visited the Langata Women Maximum Prison as part of this year's Corporate Social Responsibility activity. They donated food stuff and clothing for the women and their children at the prison.

October 14, 2021





In Brief



Kenya's Consulate in Los Angeles now has capacity to process and issue passports to Kenyans in the US.

Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau who was on an official visit to inspect projects in US had the opportunity to hand over the first batch of Passports processed at the Kenyan Consulate at Los Angeles.

October 28, 2021

Principal Secretary, Amb. Macharia Kamau, during his meeting with Kenya Consulate team in Los Angeles led by Consul General Amb. Njeri Njiiri.

The PS impressed upon them to work hard in extending Consular Services to Kenyans in the region while promoting Kenya's Commercial and Trade interests.

October 28, 2021



On October 21, 2021, Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau visited the Kenya Embassy in Washington DC for inspection on the ongoing renovations of the Chancery. He also held a meeting with staff working at the Mission.

Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau, Amb. Catherine Muigai, Kenya's High Commissioner to South Africa and Amb. Tom Amolo, Kenya's Ambassador to Germany at the United Nations Security Council Chamber in New York, USA

October 19, 2021





In Brief



Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the Security Council in the month of October exchanging views with H.E. Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary General at the Security Council Chambers on October 6, 2021

On arrival in Niamey with the Security Council on October 25, 2021, Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the Security Council in the month of October, addressed the press and informed the purpose of the visit was to to learn of how to protect democracy while dealing with climate change impacts and terrorism in the Sahel and Lake Chad.

The team was met by H.E. Hassoumi Massaoudou, Niger's Foreign Minister.



On October 26, 2021 Amb. Martin Kimani and the Security Council Members visited the memorial in Escadrille to Niger's civilians and soldiers killed by terrorists.

"We honour their memory and condemn the crime of terrorism in all its manifestations. We cannot allow these groups to win," - Amb. Kimani





In Brief

Amb. Martin Kimani, Kenya's Permanent Representative and President of the Security Council for the month of October 2021, preparing for the day's activities at the Council



Amb. Mike Kiboino, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Security Council, consulting with Mr. Kevin Thuo, Head of the UNSC Peace and Security Strategic Bureau and Ms. Catherine Nyakoe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) expert at the Kenya delegation to the Security Council in New York, USA

Amb. Martin Kimani, President of the Security Council in the month of October 2021 with his team, walk out of the Security Council Chamber after presiding over the High Level Signature Event on Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons on October 6, 2021

SECURITY COUNCIL
CONSEIL DE SECURITE



Office Administrative team that was all-hands-on-deck during Kenya's Presidency of the United Nations Security Council in the month of October 2021 in New York, USA.



VISION

A peaceful, prosperous and globally competitive Kenya.

MISSION

To project, promote and protect Kenya's interests and image globally through innovative diplomacy, and contribute towards a just, peaceful and equitable world.

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